

BLACK ADDER



**Your snake in the grass
of the rich and powerful**

BY CLIVE GOODMAN

CHRISTMAS comes as a welcome rest for Prince Harry's private secretary, Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton.

Because on top of normal duties, JLP has been giving Harry a guiding hand through his Sandhurst studies. Harry (left) sailed through the academy's physical challenges but found the written papers on strategy and politics less easy.



"It's like Who Wants To Be A Brigadier with Jamie as Harry's phone-a-friend lifeline," joked one colleague. Sandhurst's rules say officer cadets may seek outside advice on essays.

"Harry has done nothing wrong," says a Clarence House spokeswoman. "He is able to ask for suggestions of books or websites, which he can then do his own research on—like any other cadet might do."

Sadly for other cadets, they don't all have a private sec who also happens to be an ex-SAS, former Irish Guards officer to turn to.

"It's perfectly acceptable," said academy spokesman Col Roy Parkinson. "Officer Cadet Wales is in a very good position to have Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton to advise him."